Explanations for the Metals Results Tables

Concentrations are reported in parts/million (ppm; ug/g), wet tissue weight for all metals

N is the number of samples analyzed

ND means not detected at the Minimum Reporting Limit

Where results were below the detection level, they were treated as ½ the detection level for analytical purposes. If over ½ the results for a species/tissue combination were below the detection level, the mean and median values were listed as ND, due to the uncertainty of the results.

* Denotes composite samples. Composites ranged from two whole small fish (juvenile grayling) to as many as 60 whole salmon fry. This was only done when individual samples were too small to provide enough tissue for individual analyses of all metals. The results are functionally equivalent to the average of two to 60 individual analyses.

Std Dev is one standard Deviation from the Mean

All species and tissues are listed for each metal, even if that metal was not run on all of the samples. This was done to standardize the tables and provide consistency in the results presentation.

Total mercury was analyzed on a DMA 80 Total Mercury Analyzer™ by EPA Method 7473.

All other metals were analyzed by EPA Method 6020 on a Perkin-Elmer Elan DRC II™ Inductively Coupled Plasma/Mass Spectrometer after acid/microwave digestion.

All samples were stored at -20ºC from receipt until processing. They were thawed and run through a tissue grinder and homogenized during processing. For fillet samples, both fillets were removed and the skin was removed from the fillets before grinding. For whole body fish samples, all material, including bones and skin were ground and homogenized. Whole body invertebrate samples included tissue and viscera, but not shells. Processed samples were kept at -20ºC until analysis.

Standard Quality Control methods were followed for all analyses. They included linearity and stability checks, sample duplicates, and the use of Certified Reference Materials.